

Attachment E

2012 Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP) National Water Quality Initiative (NWQI)

State Ranking Questions (Maximum Points–400)

1. Water Quality–Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Watersheds:
 - 1a. Does the application include core conservation practices (CP) that will be implemented within ¼ mile of a stream or water body that is threatened (i.e., receives significant runoff of excess nitrogen and/or phosphorous), on the EPA 303(d) list, or is impaired with a total maximum daily load (TMDL) in place and therefore not on the 303(d) list (or other critical stream or water body authorized by the regional conservationist)? (100 Points)
2. Geographic Impacts:
 - 2a. Are core CPs planned on the offered acres?
 - i. Greater than 75 percent of the offered acres are within the targeted watershed,
AND
 - ii. Greater than 75 percent of the offered acres have a core CP planned for application. (125 points)
3. Collaborative Efforts:
 - 3a. Are core CPs planned within an existing state agency or other non-U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) water quality project area addressing the same or similar pollutants? (75 points)
4. Effort to address watershed impairments:
 - 4a. Does this program application include the implementation of a system of CPs which address the primary watershed impairments? (50 points)
5. High Risk Soils:
 - 5a. Are core CPs to be implemented on offered acres with a majority of soil types that are classified hydrologic group D (high runoff) or group A (high infiltration)? (50 points)

Local Questions-

Answer the following questions related to the application.

- 1: Application includes at least one practice with a lifespan of 10 years or greater, as documented in the electronic Field Office Technical Guide (eFOTG). (5 points)
- 2: CPs are scheduled to be completed within four years. (5 points)